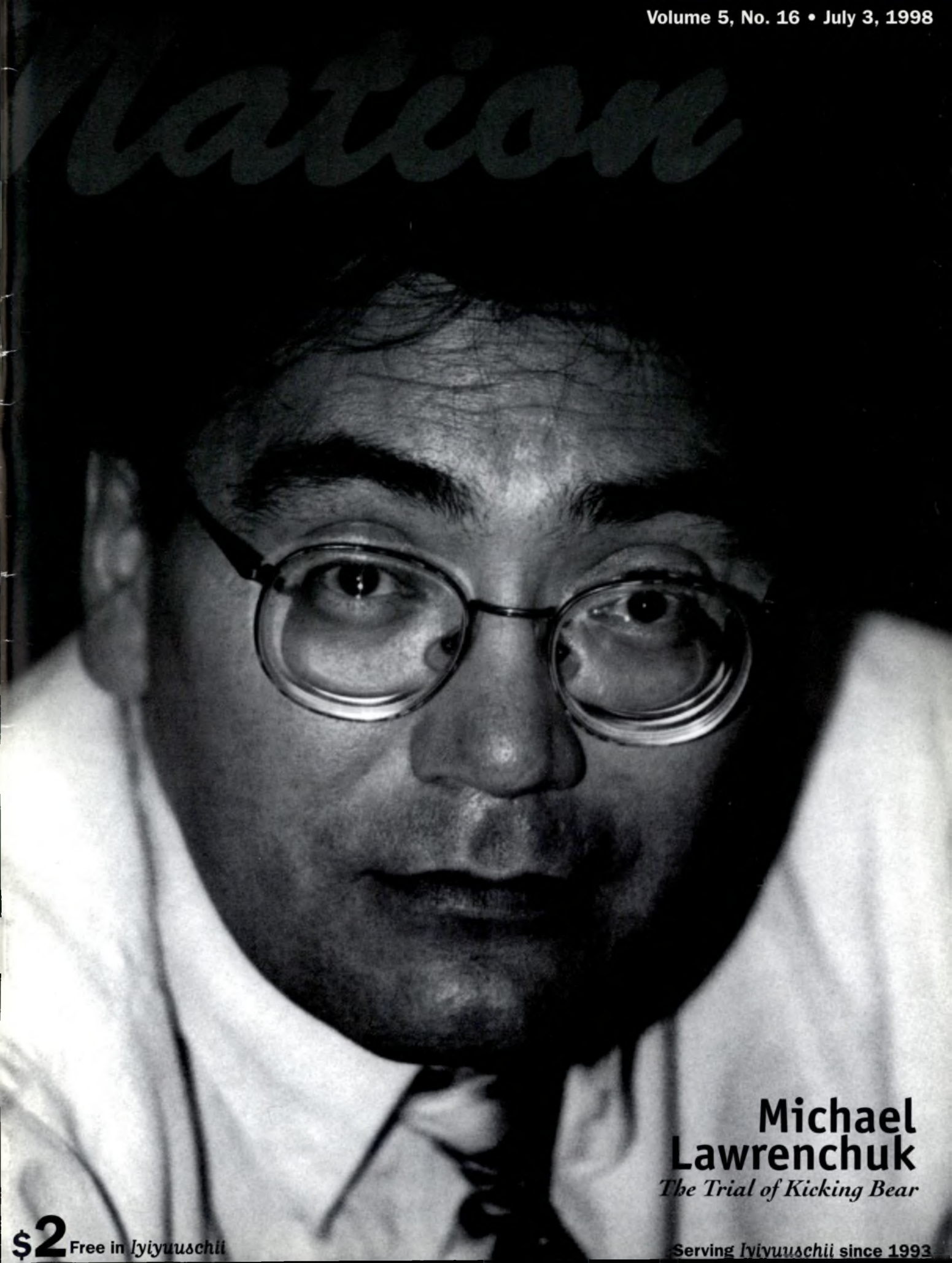
Volume 5, No. 16 • July 3, 1998

Nation



Michael Lawrenchuk

The Trial of Kicking Bear

$2 Free in *Iyiyuuschii*

Serving *Iyiyuuschii* since 1993

CARREFOUR

DU NORD-OUEST

IN VAL-D'OR

Welcomes you to the biggest shopping center in Abitibi-Témiscamingue.

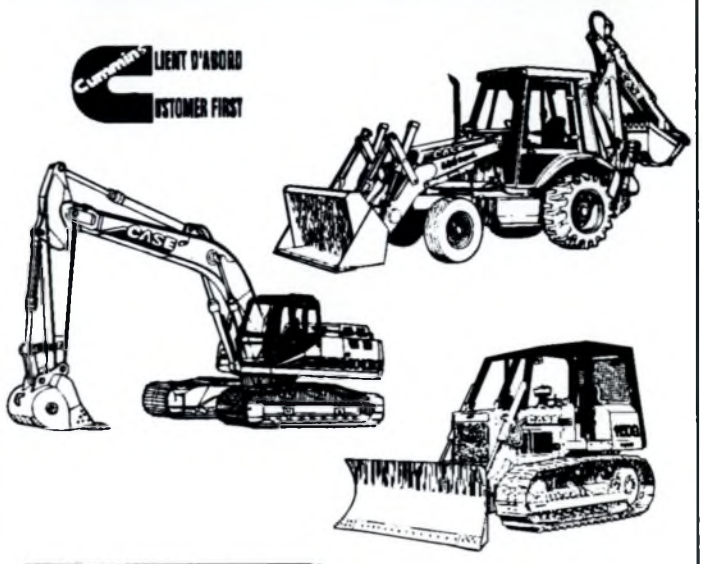
43 stores

To serve you better:
Henri Primeau General Director
Lorraine Le Blanc Marketing Director
(819) 874-5593

METRO GRENIER · Hart · Zellers

CASE

Cummins CLIENT D'ABORD CUSTOMER FIRST



COMIFOR

ÉQUIPMENTS COMIFOR INC.
1117, rue Manufacturiers, Val d'Or QC J9P 6Y7
Tel.: 819.825.3343 Fax: 819.825.9439

CREE OWNED
ᐃᓕᓴᐍᐏᐣ ᑕᐱᐧᐁᐎᐣ

Où J'ai des Sports

949 3rd Street
Chibougamau, Qué.
J0P 1R4
phone: 418.748.3366
fax: 418.748.3037

Your #1 **POLARIS** *dealer in the Chibougamau and James Bay Area.*

High Performance Parts Available

FOR PLEASURE OR FOR WORK, WE HAVE THE 4-WHEELER FOR YOU!

WE NOW DISTRIBUTE "LUND" BOATS AND OUTBOARDS MOTORS.

DROP BY OR CALL FOR THE BEST PRICES IN CHIBOUGAMAU!

POLARIS

Believe it.

PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY

School Days

Under the Northern Sky
by Xavier Kataquapit

It is the end of the school year and memories of my school days come flooding back, as I watch the kids in the neighbourhood with more free time on their hands. My early school days in Attawapiskat had a great effect on me. You see, the school and its teachers were an entire other world situated in the midst of my community.

School was different from the life we young Cree children had at home. The schools, which were located right in the middle of Attawapiskat, represented a little of the world outside which we saw on television. At school, there was running water, hot water, showers and toilets. In most homes, up until only a few years ago, these conveniences were non-existent.

Mind you, we did have water at home for everyday use but it had to be collected from the river. If you wanted to go to the bathroom you had to use the outhouse and in the freezing winter temperature of the far north, this was generally not a pleasant experience.

Every home had a bucket that was used in the night and dumped the next morning. At home you bathed with the help of a hand wash basin. I am sure that most people are astonished when I tell them this was how life was for my community until the beginning of this decade. So you can see what a special place the school was for all of us. These days we have running water and all the conveniences of modern southern communities thanks to the hard work of our Chief and Council.

Teachers were special, too. For most of us this was our first contact with the non-Native culture and a chance to learn more about the outside world and make new friends. While thinking back on it now, I realize what a cultural shock it must have been for so many of the young and inexperienced teachers. When I was young, my friends and I were eager to visit our favourite teachers. It was an exotic experience to visit in their homes and it made us feel good to hear about their lives.

Back then, the lifestyle teachers lived was very different from ours but today that gap has narrowed. The education system has improved vastly over the last decade and many of our own people are teachers or teacher's assistants today. As a matter of fact, I am proud to say that our education administration and leadership are headed by local Aboriginal people. In addition, only a few years ago a secondary school was built and is still expanding. The opportunity for education in Attawapiskat is getting better every year.

I don't think people realize the profound effect teachers have on their students and this is even more so in a remote community such as mine. I remember fondly some of the teachers who went out of their way to show me encouragement and kindness. Thankfully, there were teachers like Rhonda McKay, who encouraged me in high school to write and she gave me a journal that went to good use. Rhonda was a bright light for many of us and I can recall being excited and motivated by her work with us in drama and creative writing. She exposed us to some great literature, including Native authors.

Then there was Brian MacIsaac, my grade six teacher, who made every day at school a fun experience. My friends and I were always welcome at Brian's place and we simply enjoyed sitting and drinking tea or pop talking about anything and everything.

There are many other teachers who come to mind and I owe thanks to all of them for the individual attention they gave me. Perhaps, with these words, I have repaid them in some small way.

Contents

NEWS

5 It's a go
Waskaganish signs on

5 Ultimatum
Kahnawake's declaration

7 Funds misspent
Chief pays centre back

7 Briefs
Tom Henry Rupert

INTERVIEW

10 Actor-Chief
Kicking Bear

ELECTION

15 Mistissini
Candidates respond

DEANTHA

19 Friends-in-law
Ya gotta love 'em

WWW

21 Questionnaire

ON THE COVER
Chief Michael Lawrenchuk

Photo: William Nicholls
Design: Katerina Cizek

rez notes
by Ndiamon

There comes a time when even the most modest of publications such as The Nation, one of the most feared and loathed magazines in Cree territory, Quebec City and Ottawa, must toot its own horn.

What made this Nation horn tootin' possible was this past weekend's Quebec Community Newspaper Association awards banquet in the beautiful Laurentian hills north of Montreal.

There we were in the dining hall all decked out in our finest threads eating steak and washing it down with some fine red wine. We had to sit through a long boring speech by someone named White, a left-hand man, I believe, of Conrad Black's and a former Mulroney fart catcher.

We were nominated for five awards. Add that to the 12 awards already adorning our office walls.

The first acknowledgment to our greatness was when Marilyn Bearskin Herodier received an honourable mention for her writing in the Best Column category. She tied with Royal Orr of The Stanstead Journal.

Ernest Webb was awarded third place for an editorial he wrote on Ovide Mercredi and the Liberal Party. "My genius was finally recognized, even if it was third place," Ernest would joke later, sticking his tongue out in the Cree manner. Indicating he was joking. Or was he?

The Cree School Board/Nation collaboration, The Learning Circle, picked up a third place award for Best Special Section. Rhonda Sherwood accepted for The Nation. "I felt like the mooost beaaautifuuuuul giiiirl in the wuuuuuuurld," laughed Rhonda.

We were also nominated for Best Photo Essay. The Nemaska Fitness Challenge story won second place. I got up (thank you, thank you very much) to accept the award and the other winners didn't even bother to show up. Of course, someone in the crowd had to shout out, "Sing us a song."

Our final award was for Best In-House Ad. The ad for the Cree Health was for traditional baby foods. Our designer, Katerina Cizek, went up to accept the award with, appropriately enough, the youngest member of our entourage, three year old Rachel Webb.

I have included below sample of our winning entries for your enjoyment. Thank you... thank you very much....

3rd Place: The Nation
The ad for Traditional Baby Foods really steps off the page - a great photo! It almost looks like a national ad.

3rd Place - The Nation
"The Learning Circle" by Rhonda Sherwood of The Nation - a great educational piece - no pun intended - very clean look, a great cooperative effort between the local newspaper and school board. I applaud your efforts!

3rd Place: Ernest Webb, The Nation
What I liked about Ernest Webb's piece was his outspokenness and his fearless writing. It was certainly thought-provoking. And it presented a good argument with some good reasons for the then-Grand Chief.

2nd Place: Neil Diamond, The Nation
Best layout marks go to Neil Diamond's entry. The candids were vignettes of an event, and they worked. Excellent photos combined with a clever layout makes for a winning combination.

The Nation is published every two weeks by Beesum Communications.

editorial board
Ernest Webb, William Nicholls, Alex Roslin

director of operations
Catherine Bainbridge

Iyiyuu Ayimuun editor
Brian Webb

photography
Neil Diamond

graphic design
Katerina Cizek , Sylvia Tennisco

director of finances
Linda Ludwick

director of marketing
Rhonda Sherwood

director of northern sales
Deantha Edmunds

director of sales
Johanne Grenon
(Chibougamau 418.748.4229)

sales representative • Val d'Or
Yvon Boisvert 819.874.6977

special projects
Stella Lameboy, Nancy Bobbish

layout & production
E. Webb, A. Roslin, W. Nicholls, N. Diamond

administrative assistant
—

THANKS TO:
Air Creebec, Donald Nicholls, Tom & Eliza Webb, Capissisit Lodge

Printed by Hebdolitho.

©All Rights Reserved

Publication Mail #0584584
ISSN #1206-2642

***THE NATION* IS A MEMBER OF:**
The James Bay Cree Communications Society
Circle of Aboriginal Controlled Publishers
Canadian Magazine Publishers Association
Quebec Community Newspaper Association
Canadian Community Newspaper Association
Les Hebdos Sélect du Québec

WHERE TO REACH US:
POSTMASTER:
5505 St-Laurent, #4203B, Montreal, QC. H2T 1S6

Please address correspondence to:
The Nation Production Office
5678 Park Ave.
P.O. Box 48036
Montreal, QC H2V 4S8

Editorial
TeL: 514.272.3077 Fax: 514.278.9914

***The Nation* Head Office**
P.O. Box 151, Chisasibi, QC, J0M 1E0

e-mail: beesum@odyssee.net
on the web: http://nisk.creenet.com/~nation/

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Individuals & Institutions: $45
ABROAD: Individuals: $70 U.S.
ABROAD: Institutions: $85 U.S.

Payable to Beesum Communications

Nation

WE'LL SEE YOU IN COURT: LAWSUIT OKAYED

The news spread fast. The Cree court case against the forestry industry and governments is a go.

Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come traveled to Waskaganish to discuss the court case earlier this month. With him were Chief John Kitchen and lawyer James O'Reilly. Waskaganish was the last of the five Cree communities affected by forestry to give its approval.

"It was the same type of reaction as in the other communities. The people are all very concerned about forestry exploitation," said O'Reilly.

Jack Blacksmith, coordinator of the Cree Forestry Working Group, wasn't able to attend the meeting, but was relieved when he heard the news.

"Even though I was optimistic, I was still relieved to hear we had support in Waskaganish."

The meeting lasted over four hours and was broadcast live by the radio station.

Of the five communities touched by forestry, Waskaganish is one of the least affected. Only two Waskaganish traplines are presently being logged, those of the late Bert Moar Sr. and Charlie Diamond, brother of Chief Billy Diamond.

But those traplines are in the area of Muskuchii Mountain, a sacred site famous for its great abundance of wildlife. To the Waskaganish people, it was unthinkable that this area would be logged.

But that is just what Norbord is doing. "These are rich sites for the company," said Gérard Lafôret, Norbord's director of forestry and the environment.

Norbord has a license to cut 100,000 cubic metres per year in the Waskaganish territory. The wood is for two mills in Lasarre, where Norbord has 300 employees. Norbord has also started building a road 30 to 50 kilometres long into the virgin forests north of the mountain.

Norbord and Waskaganish have been talking for four or five years about how to limit the damage by using "mosaic" cutting, instead of clearcuts, Lafôret said.

The company also agreed to hire 20 Waskaganish Crees each summer for sylviculture work (treeplanting) and offers the community a wholesale price on buying back the trees that were cut down.

Lafôret said the company also offers "services" to the trappers affected by the forestry, but said it's "nothing formal on paper."

He would not give details beyond saying, "It's an exchange of services."

The final touches are now being put on the Cree court case, which will be filed at Quebec Superior Court mostly likely in mid-July.

The defendants will be a dozen forestry companies operating in Iyiyuuschii, as well as Quebec and the federal government. The plaintiffs will be the five communities, the Grand Council of the Crees/Cree Regional Authority and individual tallymen.

The lawsuit will ask the court for an injunction to stop the operations of loggers throughout the Cree territory. It will ask the court to declare the companies' timber-supply licenses and the Quebec Forest Act illegal and unconstitutional, and violate the Cree rights.

by Alex Roslin

See our next issue for our full interview with Jack Blacksmith.

KAHNAWAKE ISSUES ULTIMATUM

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawake has warned the federal and Quebec governments it is asserting its sovereignty over the community's territory, taking control of highways, railways and waterways, and declaring the community a duty-free zone.

The move was prompted by Quebec's recent changes to its tobaccco-tax laws and has been described as a unilateral declaration of sovereignty. Highways and other routes that crisscross Mohawk land will remain open, the Mohawk Council said, but governments will be taxed for their use.

"We will begin our jurisdictional control over economic-development matters with attention concentrated on third-party interests in land being nationalized or taxed," said the Mohawk Council.

"We will also initiate user fees on our highways, waterways, railways and on utilities. We will plan a tax protest starting in Kahnawake. As part of our economic development, we will establish a duty-free zone for the territory of Kahnawake."

The council called the Quebec government's tax changes an attack on Aboriginal rights, a charge that was later backed up by other First Nations leaders. Quebec decided recently to start collecting tobacco taxes through manufacturers, rather than retailers. Merchants would be reimbursed later for taxes they paid on cigarettes sold to Native people. The government accused some Mohawk cigarette dealers of not charging taxes to non-Natives.

The Mohawk Council said Quebec and Ottawa haven't cooperated with its attempts to resolve tax and other issues.

"The attempts to limit and control our rights to the point of their extinction is tantamount to absolute assimilation and political genocide."

Mohawk Grand Chief Joe Norton also blamed successive governments for the "deterioration and erosion" of Mohawk land and rights, and using Mohawks as a "political football."

"Mr. Jean Charest and his jackals took great delight in making the Quebec government squirm at our expense (on the tax issue) ," Norton said.

-With files from The Montreal Gazette

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL POSTING

Director of Finance and Administration

NATURE OF WORK

The position of Director of Finance and Administration comprises the responsibility for the management (planning, organization, administration, control, evaluation) of all the programs and resources respecting the finance and administration of the school board and includes the treasury, preparation of the budget and financial statement, budgetary and financial control, internal audit, accounting procedures and financial analysis. The Director of Finance and Administration reports directly to the Director General.

Furthermore, the Director of Finance and Administration holds the responsibility for the management (planning, organization, administration, control, evaluation) for financial services, equipment services, data processing, and personnel services and more particularly:

To prepare and present the annual budget of the Board to the council and ensure it is transmitted to the Minister after it is approved by the council;

To deal with all financial and administrative matters related to the application of funding rules and parameters with the various government departments;

To supervise the preparation of the financial statements of the Board containing the auditor's report and ensure the transmission to the Minister after approval by the Council;

To conduct a financial analysis of all programs and proposed programs of the Board;

To exercise the powers and obligations conferred by section 321 to 326 and 333 to 338 of the Education Act upon a Secretary Treasurer;

To attend to certain matters pertaining to the administration of moveable immovable property of the Board in association with community education administrators, including insurance, inventory, security and repairing;

To analyse all capital and construction projects of the Board and to make recommendation to the Council and Executive Committee and to be responsible for their implementation;

To ensure quantitative data processing and gathering, to analyse all statistical and financial reports and to submit summary thereof to the council and Executive Committee;

To supervise all matters pertaining to personnel including, without limitation, hiring policies, labour relations, salaries, conditions of employment and negotiation of collective agreements.

MINIMUM REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Undergraduate degree in a relevant field of study, preferably specializing in:
commerce
administration
eight (8) years of relevant experience

Knowledge of Cree is essential in addition to English.
Knowledge of the French language is an asset.
Knowledge of the Northern conditions and of the lifestyle and cultures of the James Bay Cree
The Cree School Board will consider candidates with other qualifications and experience in conjunction with internal training.

SALARY AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Based on qualifications and experience, according to the "By-Law" on the working conditions for the Senior and Management Personnel as approved by the M.E.Q.

Interested candidates should forward their curriculum vitae and letters of references by or before July 9, 1998 to:

Cree School Board
203 Main Street
Baie du Poste, Quebec
G0W 1C0

Fax: (418) 923-2073
Tel: (418) 923-2764

Posting date: June 25, 1998
End of Posting: July 9, 1998

Chief repays centre for misspent funds

Did John Kitchen use a corporate credit card for personal expenses in the days when he was director-general of the Cree Business Development Centre?

Before Kitchen became chief of Waswanipi, he was the top administrator of the centre, which got funds from the federal government to support Cree businesses.

Three individuals who were on the centre's board of directors when Kitchen was there have come forward to tell their version of what happened.

They said that during a regular audit, it was discovered that Kitchen had taken some money from the centre by using the corporate credit card for personal expenses. He still hadn't paid the money back.

Jimmy A. Fireman, a member of the centre's board of directors at the time, said Kitchen misused the corporate credit card.

"There was an understanding that the corporate credit card was to be used only for business," said Fireman, who is now president of the Eeyou Economic Group, which took over the Cree Business Development Centre after Kitchen left.

"He violated the centre's rules."

In an interview, Kitchen denied there was any conflict or concern among board members about the corporate credit card or expense accounts at the time he left to become chief.

"There's nothing there, no," Kitchen said.

But one person who was on the board said there was a heated discussion about Kitchen's handling of funds.

"He had a corporate credit card which he was using extensively," said the ex-board member.

He said board members had questions about $24,000 of the centre's money spent by Kitchen. He was confronted about this at a meeting of board members in Val d'Or.

It was later agreed that Kitchen was owed some back pay, holiday pay and raises. This was deducted from what he spent and Kitchen agreed to repay the balance.

At least one ex-board member disagreed with this deal, saying Kitchen was let off easy.

Another ex-board member told this version of the story: "There was an advance on salary and it went a little overboard. Each year the board does an audit. And if they see anything outstanding they question it.

"Like any organization we want to know what happened to that money. And that's what happened. So he was asked to pay it back."

Fireman confirmed that Kitchen paid the centre back about "$5,000 or $6,000."

When Kitchen was confronted at the board meeting in Val d'Or, one ex-board member said Kitchen left the room.

"When we said it to his face, he went out for coffee and he checked out (of the hotel). He left the (credit) card at the desk, never answered any calls and a month later he was chief," he said.

Fireman confirmed this account, though he added Kitchen and the centre did meet afterwards to make a deal on how much was owed.

by Alex Roslin

Chisasibi man held in Ontario after police chase

A Chisasibi man in his pick-up truck led Ontario Provincial Police and a local squad car on an 80-kilometre chase before being arrested on 12 charges near Kirkland Lake, Ont., according to police.

Tom Henry Rupert, 31, was able to evade officers for some time until his tires were blown out by a police spike belt, said Const. Laura Cahill of the South Porcupine OPP detachment.

The chase hit speeds of up to 150 km/hour. Rupert's court-appointed lawyer, Calvin Ferrier, would not comment.

Rupert was first stopped by a South Porcupine OPP officer who saw him swerving from lane to lane on a bridge shortly before 3 a.m. on Friday, May 29, Cahill said. As the officer tried to handcuff him, Rupert "struck" the officer on the head and went for his gun, claimed Cahill.

When the officer retreated, Rupert jumped back in his vehicle and took off with the officer's arm caught in the car window, Cahill said. The officer sustained an injury when he fell from the truck, she said.

A chase ensued, which involved up to three police cars. At one point, Rupert disabled one of the cars by ramming it, Cahill continued. But once Rupert hit the spike belt, he offered no more resistance.

Rupert is charged with impaired driving, over 80 milligrams (i.e. drunk while in the driver's seat), dangerous driving, assaulting an officer, assaulting an officer with intent to resist arrest, escaping custody, failure to stop for police, mischief over $5,000 (two counts), possession of a prohibited weapon (a large-capacity .22 ammo clip), unsafe storage of ammunition and the provincial offence of "having liquor readily available."

He was denied bail at a hearing in Timmins. Rupert is being held at the Monteith Correctional Centre near Iroquois Falls.

First victims of nuclear age want justice

The Slavey people of the community of Déné in the NWT say they are "the very first

continued on page 9

Chisasibi 8th Annual Traditional Pow-wow

Chisasibi, Quebec (on the mainland)
August 7, 8, 9, 1998
"Honoring our Leaders"

Host Drum: ***Pipestone Creek Singers***
(Onion Lake, Saskatchewan)

Co-host Drum: ***Blackstone Singers***
(Sweetgrass, Saskatchewan)

Invited Drums: ***Fly-In Eagle***
(Cutknife, Saskatchewan)
WhiteFish Jrs.
(BigRiver, Saskatchewan)

Master of Ceremonies: ***Eric Robinson,*** Manitoba
Archie Cheechoo, Ontario

Head Dancers: ***Ben Lovejoy,*** Sisseton, South Dakota
Della Lovejoy, Sisseton, South Dakota

Arena Director: ***Abraham Bearskin,*** Chisasibi

Full honorarium for first 5 drums to register
Honorariums available to all dancers

Trader fee: $150.00 for the weekend

For further information or requests
for specials, please contact:
Larry House @ 819-855-2717
Tommy Bobbish @ 819-855-2420 (evenings)
Pow-wow Committee not responsible for lost or stolen articles or injuries.

CANADIAN TIRE
WACHIYA!

• Hunting • Fishing • Camping •
• Ammunition • Sporting Goods •
• Automotive Parts & Repair •
• Hardware & Houseware

C.O.D.'s ACCEPTED

Phone or Fax in your orders
Tel.: 819.762.4375
Fax:819.762.4374

ROUYN-NORANDA
10 Dallaire Promenades du Cuivre

Jacques Carignan
Associate Dealer

A Pearl to be Discovered

Located downtown Montreal, Hotel du Fort offers the comfort of home in 127 tastefully appointed guest rooms and suites all featuring kitchenette convenience.
For information on discounted rates and reservations please call **1-800-565-6333**. **Reserve your room today!**

HÔTEL DU FORT

1390, rue du Fort - Montreal - Quebec - H3H 2R7
Internet: www.hoteldufort.com Email: reserve@hoteldufort.com

BIENVENUE • WELCOME • WACHIYA

POLARIS Michel Laframboise

CARELLA
MOTO SPORT

Carella Moto Sport
122, Route 111Ouest
Amos(Quebec)
Tel.(819) 732-3375 Fax.(819) 732-6666

continued from page 7

victims of the nuclear age."

They want Canada to acknowledge its responsibility for the nightmare of radiation poisoning that has hit the community and clean up radioactive waste in their area.

Government-sponsored uranium and radium mining near their community started the 1930s. That's when the Eldorado mine was opened, producing uranium for the world's first atomic bombs, dropped on the Japanese by U.S. forces.

The government operated the mine until 1960, but knew of the effects of radiation poisoning since 1932.

The people of Déné say the government is responsible for numerous radiation-related deaths and 1.7 million tonnes of radioactive waste in Great Bear Lake, Canada's fifth-largest lake.

Young men from Déné were recruited to work at the Eldorado mine and wore no protective gloves or clothing. They weren't warned of the dangers. One man recalls being coated in radium dust as it leaked from heavy bags he lugged on his back.

LUBICON SCORE VICTORY

The Lubicon Lake Cree Nation have scored a major victory in their long fight to protect their land. After a 10-year Lubicon campaign, the Japanese forestry giant Daishowa has finally agreed not to harvest or purchase timber from Lubicon lands until a land-claim agreement is worked out with the governments.

Daishowa obtained logging rights to 29,000 square kilometres in Northern Alberta in 1988, including the entire Lubicon territory. The Lubicons' supporters launched a boycott campaign against Daishowa to put pressure on the company not to start cutting. Daishowa went to court to try to get the boycott squashed, but after the court ruled against the company, Daishowa agreed not to log Lubicon lands.

Congratulations!

To all graduates of the Cree Nation class of '98

You have reached another milestone and we are all very proud of you.

We want to encourage you to strive for a higher education and to prepare to lead the Cree Nation of the future.

We want to extend our sincere congratulations to the 1998 graduating class of the Cree Literacy Education Program at McGill University.

Also, a special congratulations to those who received the two scholarships from the Annie Whiskeychan Cree Language Memorial Foundation:

Frances Mark (1998 Recipient)
Florrie Mayappo (1998 Recipient)
Mary Ann Cox (1997 Recipient)
Margaret Bearskin (1998 Recipient)

Chief Billy Diamond, PH.D
Waskaganish First Nation Council
Waskaganish First Nation Members

Thank you for your dedication and keeping Cree as a language of instruction in our schools.

Acting Chief

By William Nicholls

I had the honour of meeting Michael Lawrenchuk, a Manitoba Swampy Cree, in a military prison cell so to speak. Lawrenchuk was the actor in a one-man play called The Trial of Kicking Bear as part of a Montreal Native festival leading up to National Aboriginal Day. It was put on by Lands In Sight (Terres en Vue).

It is a play about a Lakota leader. The time is March 1891. It is three months after the Wounded Knee massacre and Kicking Bear was one of those who believed in the Ghost Dance. The Ghost Dance would bring back the old ways and days. It would drive all the whites from the Sioux territory and other Indian lands. The American government saw these gatherings by the Sioux as a threat and jailed Kicking Bear for two years. The play was striking in the fact that it had elements that Cree Elders talk about and in the way they talk.

It is interesting that Lawrenchuk both wrote and starred in this play, as today he is a newly elected chief of the Fox Lake reserve. He was elected May 19, 1998. He laughs and says he's so new to the position that he has "only a few kicks but no bruises yet." He will, like Kicking Bear, have to look at the world and try to find the best path for his people.

Leaders in the Indian world usually are groomed and enter politics with experience in business or band council employment. It is almost unheard of for an actor to be considered. Lawrenchuk has broken the mold and deservedly so.

The Nation: How long have you been an actor?

Michael Lawrenchuk: I've been in the profession for about eight or nine years but some you talk to will say I've been a professional actor or liar all my life. [laughter]

Why would you say that?

I think Native people understand this, that you have to sometimes adopt a role to be accepted in whatever setting you're in. I think I'm great at adapting and adopting roles. It allowed me to move ahead and on to certain things. I knew if I didn't play a game or play "The Game" I wouldn't be where I am right now.

How did you get into acting?

I've always been interested in movies. When I was growing up back home on the reserve we had CBC. Cinema 6 it was called and at about 11:30 at night the old black and white movies would come on. I would be glued to the movies and never thought anything about that. But when I went to university I majored in psychology. I was going to be a psychologist and save my people. Not realizing, I guess everyone else realized it, that what needed saving was myself and what happened was I took a theater course, Introduction to Acting or something like that, and I was bitten.

I switched my majors to English and Theater, and that's how it all started for me. It's interesting, though. Theater training, the nature of acting, is a very psychological process. It's a good healing tool. I can honestly say the training that I received as an actor in the university in London, England, saved my life. It forced me to rip away all the crap that I used to try to stay alive. What happens when you rip away all the masks you have is that you are forced to look at who you are honestly with no coverings. That's the beginning of anybody's healing process, when you rip away everything and start from brand-new, and that's an actors training. That's how it started.

I noticed in your play that you talk in the manner of the Elders. I was reminded of people back home. You use this extensively in the Trial of Kicking Bear.

That was deliberate. I was greatly influenced by the old people. My grandparents raised me. The old people have a certain way of talking and it's a beautiful way of talking. I thought it was important to use it for this show because it is a show about the old people.

The Trial of Kicking Bear is a Lakota story and you're a Swampy Cree from Manitoba. I've noticed the Lakota are very territorial about their heritage. Did you approach the Lakota before you wrote the play?

Yes, I did. In fact, I was helped extensively by a Lakota Elder and her name is Selane Not Help'em. She is the direct descendent of Short Bull, a cousin of Kicking Bear. Selane told me stories

that were passed on to her from survivors of the massacre. There are things in the play that aren't in any books. Only the people who see the play will know them. I don't think some of them realize what they are learning from Selane through the play. Yes, I did talk to the Lakota and I was helped.

Well, if some of those things aren't in the books, I'm surprised the anthropologists haven't come sniffing around.

[Laughter] During my tour across Canada there were various times I would be questioned about the accuracy of some of the things I had been saying by non-Native reporters and the like. I remembered being challenged by a radio announcer in Ottawa. I let him know that if he wanted to talk me about Native history or stuff like that I was more than willing and open to talk to him any time and any place, but he never called.

So you feel people would like to keep the version of history that is in the books?

Yes.

You've taken this play across Canada but this was your first time in Montreal?

When we originally did our tour, we had bookings straight through to Halifax. But because I funded the show myself, by the time we made it to Ottawa we were running on ticket money and there wasn't much ticket money. We had to make a decision on whether to keep going east or see if the money we had was enough gas money to get home. That's what we did; we went home.

But, yes, this is the first time I've been in Montreal and it's been a beautiful experience for me. Andre and Pierre from Terres en Vue, Lands in Sight, invited me down here. For me it was great experience. I know Pierre was a little disappointed with the turnout, but this is a new thing for them. Theatre, though, is an important thing for them to keep because one of the things they are trying to do is bridge the gap between the Native peoples and non-Natives in Quebec. Theatre, whether we know it or not, is a very important aspect of Native life because we are storytellers. In theatre you tell stories, so it is important for this initiative of theatre in the First Peoples' festival to continue.

I noticed some of the aspects of your show were about Kicking Bear dealing with the culture shock of having his way of life destroyed. He was looking at his place in the world. The play explained it in a way that both Native and non-Native could understand and relate to.

I think that the question that Kicking Bear deals with in the play is a universal question. One where we explore our life and its meaning, our purpose and why we are here. Where we have to question ourselves about some of the things we have done, the actions we have taken and where we have to face up and own up to them. Where we have to take responsibility for our actions.

In the play, Kicking Bear, in his mind, brought the Ghost Dance to his people but what happened is it sped up their destruction. So what does a person do as a person if you blame yourself for killing all your people? How do you deal with that? So what happens, as in Kicking Bear's case, he was forced to ask some very hard questions about his place in the world, his place in society and for owning up for his responsibility.

Cont'd on page 13

The Cree First Nation of Waswanipi, Chief and Council wish to congratulate the following graduates of the Willie J. Happyjack Memorial School, Class of 1998:

French Sector	English Sector
Benny Blacksmith	Sarah Blacksmith
Melanie Gull	Tanya Cooper
Melinda Gull	Carly Kitchen
Sharlene Gull	
Nellie Icebound	
Jessica Otter	
Donna Ottereyes	
Jackson Ottereyes	
Anika Picard	
Bruce Saganash	

We take this opportunity to commemorate your achievements. You have all taken a vital step toward your goals in life. You serve as a worthwhile example to our future graduates, and our youth in our ever growing community.

Wishing the best in your future endeavors.

A special Congratulations to all our graduating students of 1998

From the offices of the Chairman, Director General and the Council of Commissioners of the Cree School Board

Congratulations!

to the 1998 Graduates of Ecole Luke Mettaweskum School

On behalf of the Chief and Council of the Nemaska First Nation we wish to congratulate the 1998 graduates from the Nemaska First Nation. Your hard work and determination have allowed you to meet the challenge and succeed.

Now you have the opportunities of the adult world to plan and prepare for.

The graduates who we honour today are:

Cindy Coonishish
Greg Jolly
Ruth Jolly
Stephanie Jolly
Joy Meskino
Joshua Rabbitskin

In the next few years the Nemaska First Nations will require the services of professional and skilled technical staff. Employment opportunities in the field of health, management, finance, small business development, banking, community development, the law and law enforcement will await those who decide to be the leaders of the future.

We encourage you to continue your education and to be one of those people.

Good Luck to you in the future.

Our Elders are our inspiration and strength -1998
Honoring our Elders

There are a lot of people who carry around personal guilt and they have to deal with it. Some carry more than others, but it still has to be dealt with. If you deal with it honestly I think you'll grow the same way that Kicking Bear did in the play. He dealt with his guilt because it wasn't his guilt. He tried to do what was best but it didn't work. You can't blame a man for trying to do the best and he found a way to move on which is what we do as Native peoples. We are constantly barraged with situations that are meant to destroy, but we're still here. We're growing stronger and stronger.

In my travels across Canada I see young Native people and young people just itching or just screaming for something to happen so they can focus their energies. So it is very important for artists to tap into this energy and give Native people some hope.

You've been across Canada doing your play, but I understand Canada wasn't the only place you've been in your studies?

Yes, I took my post-grad in London, England. Apart from the training, the experience of leaving this country is worth more than any education. It is an education. I think more of Native people have to get out and see the rest of the world. To see how big the world is. To see how beautiful the world is. To see how beautiful life is.

To see how many people in this country are caught up in little tiny problems not realizing that one day it is all going to end. You are going to come to the end of your life and that's it; you're going to be in the ground. What did your problems amount to? Nothing; they're your problems. You have a choice to try to do good things and enjoy your life. Being outside Canada did that for me. It gave me a different perspective. I remember back on reserve where I went to this big city called Thompson. It had about 20,000 people. It was a massive place, a scary place. Then I went to Winnipeg with about 600,000. I thought Holy Smokes, there's nothing like this. Then I traveled to Toronto and Vancouver and these are big places with millions of peoples. Then I went to London with 15 million. It gives you a different perspective, a different appreciation for our place on this planet. It was a good experience for me because it makes you appreciate your home too.

I really liked coming back and realizing how much we had. That's one thing about going away; if you don't go away you don't realize what you have. You don't realize the beautiful country we live in and the beauty we are surrounded with until you go away and come back. I really missed this place. I'm glad to be back.

After all your travels you are going back home as a newly elected chief. Will you still be doing things like Kicking Bear or other projects?

I've got a lot of projects, but being the newly elected leader of my community will be taking priority over everything. All the people back home have put their faith and trust in me to help them try to live a better life as a community and as individuals. I really don't know if I will have time for personal things.

If this show goes on the road again, and I'm sure it will, I don't know if I'll be a part of it. I have a friend I might pass it on to. He's voiced interest in it. He's another Native actor; his name is Loren Cardinal, a fine actor. I'm thinking of passing on the role to him and letting him take it wherever and giving him the authority to do it. So there's that option.

Will you continue writing?

Of course, I'll always be writing.

As a person with a lot of life experience what will you as a chief be bringing to your people?

An appreciation of life and the knowledge that things can be better. Hope and hard work. Because I've been so many places, I can appreciate life and I can get things done. I know that things can be changed. Because I've been away, I know certain things can't be right. And when I go back to my community and I see the way we've been treated, I know it is a situation that is not right. When you've been living in that situation all the time and you haven't been away, you begin to think it's a normal situation.

People who abuse their powers and take advantage of that kind of stuff. Like for us it's the way we have been treated by Manitoba Hydro and Canada. Our land has been stolen from us and we have been made to feel it was our fault, but I know better. I have the ability to change people's minds, my people's minds, and make them feel good about themselves. Make them understand it's not their fault and that things can change if we all work together. We can make our lives better and take control, which is my primary focus. My primary focus for the people of Fox Lake is to be like we once were and that's to rely on no one but ourselves.

ARE YOU A TEAM PLAYER?

The vibrant community of the Nemaska First Nation is currently seeking a talented and skilled individual for the position of Director of Operations/Management Team Leader.

This person should have a working knowledge of the Cree/Naskapi Act, excellent communication skills, previous experience at a senior management level, willing to work as a team member with a talented and challenging team as well as the basic knowledge of computerized financial systems and ability to direct a number of projects simultaneously.

Should working in a lively and growing community appeal to you, your application should be submitted to:

Chief George Wapachee
Crees of the Nemaska First Nation
Nemaska, Quebec
J0Y 3B0
Fax: (819) 673-2542
E-mail: wapachee@creenet.com

Applications will be accepted until
July 17, 1998 at 4:30 p.m.

Our Elders are our inspiration and strength - 1998 - Honoring our Elders

Conseil Cri de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
ᓂᑐᐧᐃᔨᐣ ᑲᔅ ᐃᒋᐦᐃ ᐊᐃᐣ ᐊᓇᓇᑭᑕᑲᐅᐣ
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

The Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (CBHSSJB) is a Cree entity responsible for the administration of health and social services for all residents under its jurisdiction. This jurisdiction comprises nine Cree communities and their surrounding territories, the CBHSSJB is seeking applications for:

LOCAL COORDINATOR - OUJE-BOUGOUMOU

The holder of this position ensures front-line management responsibility for the effective and efficient functioning of a Community Point of Service Center, its service delivery, staff management, materials and operational and facilities management. He/she is also a liaison with the community and participates in local planning.

In his or her line of duty, he/she applies the policies and procedures of the Board.

REQUIRED EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

CEGEP DEC in Administration and 3 - 5 years experience in administration
Or
CEGEP DEC in Nursing or Social Work and 3 - 5 years experience in administration
Or
High School Diploma, suitable experience in local administration, knowledge of the community and knowledge of the Cree language.

Salary will be established according to class 13 of the MHSS, to which will be added an isolation premium.
A command of English is essential while knowledge of French and Cree would be an asset.

Please forward your resume, a copy of your degrees and a letter describing your interest in the position and your knowledge of the native milieu, by July 10, 1998 to Patrice Gerard Blais, Personnel Department, by fax to (819) 855-2680.

Who will be Chief?

-By William Nicholls

This is a first for The Nation. It is the first time we have been able to reach the candidates for chief in a Cree community. In this case it was Mistissini. Normally the time between the nominations, acceptance and actual voting doesn't allow for much time for the candidate's positions to become well known. In this case it was a lucky break that we had the time.

But since this is the first time some of the candidates wrote a lot. We've had to edit down the answers to fit the space reserved. We have tried to retain the spirit in which the candidates wrote as best we could. To make things fair we asked all of them the same five questions. Unfortunately, we didn't have the space to print their answers to one of the questions. The order of the candidates answering was done through a chance random selection process.

Forestry

Henry Mianscum: Sees the signing of the control of natural resources in the JBNQA as a problem but insists that Crees retain use of the forest. Mianscum says forestry operations were supposed to take into account trapping, hunting and fishing lifestyles of the Crees. He says, though, that this is not what is happening and trappers and hunters are becoming pawns in "the game of overexploitation by forestry operators and supported by the government." Mianscum writes that "the lure of quick riches" will affect the Cree way of life.

He also says a new economic development pattern is developing that Mistissini residents will have to look at. Mianscum says there are Cree entrepreneurs, operations and tallymen, and their actions will have to be looked at before Crees oppose forestry operations. He continues to say that even though tallymen accept compensation for forestry damages, this does not mean they support it.

Mianscum says traditionally Crees burned selected areas in order to foster new growth in animal populations but the clearcutting doesn't allow this to happen.

Mianscum says the non-selective cutting is one of the most vocal complaints in Mistissini and the upcoming court case is something he fully supports. He points to the tallymen as the people who should be consulted in determining actions to be taken with the forestry operators. This includes compensation and work. Mianscum, referring to the trappers and hunters, writes, "The Quebec Cree Nation is indebted to this group of Crees and should take heed of their voices on matters affecting their way of life."

Kenny Loon: Points out the hunting, fishing and trapping provisions within the JBNQA and says that Quebec's actions and strategies are designed to undermine Cree rights and their ability to defend their way of life. "We must assert pressure to effect policy changes to respect Cree rights and interests to the land," writes Loon. Loon asserts that logging companies have taken full advantage of the Quebec's governmental policies to ignore Cree concerns. He cites the JBNQA's provisions that say future development must respect the Cree way of life. He says the Quebec government's land regime is different in the south and the north. This double standard means the Crees are getting a raw deal and that Quebec has violated its own laws. He looks to compensation and revenue sharing as balancing the inequalities.

William Mianscum addresses all resource development:

First and foremost, we must assert our right to sovereignty over Eeyou Astchee and I recognize the Grand Council of the Crees (of Eeyou Astchee) being the body responsible to oversee the matter. The direction must come from the grassroots level, so consultation is very important.

No category of land contemplated under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement will ever be compatible with the right to hunt, fish and trap and the forestry company's permission from Quebec to exploit. Not only do we harvest the land to continue our survival as a people of the land, we nurture and look after the land to ensure bountiful harvests for future generations. The forestry company destroys our cultivation and it destroys our means to survive, so how can it be compatible? I am for development if we are a participant to that development, but our participation must be meaningful. We must have a say on how the development of the resource takes place. We must be assured equal opportunity for jobs, business contracts and a share of the revenue generated. Our tallymen impacted by the resource developed must be principal participants in any proposal developed.

The input of the tallymen in resource development must be valued and respected. I want to share with you the view of one tallyman I have spoken to amongst many on resource development. He said, "I am for resource development if I have a say in how development takes place and our rights and interests are looked after, but if any of my children stands up, and says Dad, want to continue to follow our ways on the land, then we will stand together and fight resource development." This is a principle I live by.

Peter Coon: Both the Quebec government and forestry industry totally disregard appropriate conservation principles. Coon says present practices don't reflect the Cree territorial environment or take into account the traditional practices of the Crees. Coon says those Cree negotiations on co-management and revenue sharing would "ensure Cree participation, adequate consultative mechanisms and the sharing of profit." He goes on to say that forestry must be done on a sustainable level and any negotiations must protect the future generations and the land itself. "These goals of environmental conservation, Cree participation and protection of Cree rights are complementary and achievable."

Sam Etapp's statement: The community of Mistissini, through its representative (yours truly), appeared before the Council Board/ Chiefs last December 1997 to propose the review and development of a legal challenge against the Quebec government and the forestry industry with regards to the present conduct of forestry activities in the traditional territory of the Cree Nation of Mistissini.

The scope of the legal court action has since developed as a Cree Nation challenge and is presently in its final draft stages. A notice was issued calling for a final review at a special meeting scheduled in Montreal.

There is an unwritten policy of the community to consult directly with Cree families that are directly affected by any proposed resource development project. The general public is notified of the affected families' position and from that process a community overall position is developed afterwards. I have always

Cont'd on page 16

respected that community consultation process and will continue to hold respect for it.

At the present moment, there seems to be a general acceptance to intervene as full and meaningful participants at all levels of the commercial forestry activities: from the planning stages where cutting would be allowed to take place, based on Cree land use planning, wildlife habitat identification and protection and other measures for Crees benefiting from social and economic spin-offs.

The environmental, social and economic impacts from past cutting operations need to be reviewed and assessed for their remedial and corrective measures. All memoranda signed between the Cree Nation and the Quebec government must be respected and implemented in good faith and spirit.

Hydroelectric Development

Henry Mianscum: That Cree consent is required when discussing hydroelectric projects and their development. Once again Cree hunters and trappers are important in this process, though to a limited extent the general population supported their measures.

Future generations are a factor in development discussions these days, as well as looking at different ways of obtaining livelihood from the land. Since land has been destroyed or impacted it has resulted in those new land use patterns. New deals should include Crees being able to learn new trades. We all need jobs.

Those people who oppose further development should be heard, but so too must those who look at other means of getting a livelihood out of the exploited areas.

Kenny Loon: Makes reference to fiduciary responsibilities and the Supreme Court Sparrow decision which says Native peoples have to be consulted on decisions happening on their ancestral lands. Loon says Sparrow also requires Native consent. Loon points out that there are also review procedures, guidelines and provisions within the JBNQA that have to be respected. Loon says there are provisions within Canadian and Quebec law that would protect the rights of the Crees and the usage of the land.

Peter Coon: "I thought that hydroelectric development in Eeyou Istchee was already addressed in 1975 when the Crees signed the JBNQA. We allowed certain developments in hydroelectric projects in our territory; these developments are defined in the JBNQA and new projects are not supposed to be possible. The idea of new projects or proposed expansions and new definitions of existing projects is a matter which lies at the heart of the JBNQA. The Crees have to be careful in addressing this issue and must tackle this issue collectively."

Sam Etapp's: "The consultation process must be an integral and respected component of any resource development projects proposed or contemplated in the traditional territory of the Cree Nation.

"Seeking Cree consent must be a requirement for the authorization of any proposed development projects and the review process as contemplated in the environment regime of Section 22 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement must be respected.

"If, and only if, the communities express a desire to participate, then the Quebec government and its proponents must be prepared and held accountable to review other provisions related to preferential Cree employment, economic development assistance, training and so forth.

"The Cree communities must be adequately informed if proponents expect a response or position. There must be an informed decision. The community must be equipped with a strong leadership to respect, support and carry the decision of its community members."

Paving the Mistissini-Chibougamau Road

Henry Mianscum: Referred to a 1988 promise made by Quebec's Minster of Transport to pave the road in four years to Mistissini. Says that Crees have paid for this promised road in taxes and higher prices for vehicles because you must have one adaptable to the road. He said windshields must be replaced at least twice a year, insurance rates and deductibles are higher, vehicles depreciate by $5,000 before you even drive them off the car dealers' lot, repairs are triple Quebec's average and Cree health is affected by the unpaved roads (stress, skin, eye, ear, heart, lung and other problems).

Mianscum says Mistissini Crees are taxpayers who receive less from Quebec than average and that use of the road has contributed significantly to the coffers of the Quebec government. Mianscum says Mistissini has to continue to lobby as well as set up a strategic task force to continue the struggle.

Kenny Loon: Says the road between Chibougamau and Mistissini is hazardous and unsafe. Loon makes reference to the Minister of Transport's promise to Mistissini to pave the road. A task force was set up but little came out of it. Loon would set up a new task force to deal with the issue. He sees mandating them to do a comprehensive study, including whether or not the Quebec government is legally obligated to provide a safe road or highway when health clinics and ambulances are concerned. "In these types of situations people's lives are at risk when being transported on an unsafe highway," Loon wrote.

Loon says paved roads in Mistissini could be looked at in two ways; it can be made part of the community development budget or surplus funds could be used.

William Mianscum: We live in the 20th century; we are moving into a new millennium. Of course we "need" paved roads. The issue is a needs issue and Quebec needs to recognize that and authorize the paving project A.S.A.P.

One of the criteria for paving is economic grounds and resource development, to stimulate economic growth in the territory. The one thing Quebec fails to recognize is that, we, the Cree people in Eeyou Astchee are a resource to be considered very seriously.

"Long after the last tree is cut down
Long after the last gold is extracted
Long after the last bit of mineral is extracted
We will be here."

Are we not a resource (force) to be taken seriously? Yes, the roads need to be paved and I will continue to pursue the realization of this project.

Peter Coon: "Road in and to Mistissini must be paved." Coon refers to the 1998 Memorandum of Understanding as the place to get the roads paved. He points out that there are renewed negotiations regarding this issue between Mistissini and Quebec. Coon also refers to a Mistissini

local General Assembly resolution that confirmed "the improvement and paving of the road to Mistissini is included and is a condition for the implementation of the MOU."

Coon believes that paving the roads within the community should take a high priority because of the health problems experienced by residents. Then the road to Chibougamau should be paved starting from Mistissini and continuing all the way to Chibougamau. He also believes local Crees should benefit from the employment opportunities. He sees a paved road as a necessity to Mistissini's economic well-being. "A paved road is important for the sustainable development of the Mistissini's people's traditional lands and territories and will be an important asset of the developing tourism industry for our region," Coon writes.

Sam Etapp: "This has been a political campaign for past candidates for chief of this community. The track record has not been successful. It will require a sustained and focused effort to accomplish this particular task.

"I believe what is needed is the support of the entire community and its members, including the solicited support of our neighbours in the non-Native communities as well as the support of the Cree Nation.

"There is no excuse for any lack of support with this dossier from all fronts. The Cree Nation contributes significantly to Quebec society and economy and should receive a fair respect of its share of social benefits from a regional perspective. The office of chief cannot act alone."

Improving Community Living Conditions

Henry Mianscum: Points out Mistissini doesn't have enough housing and if we had more and brought housing up to standards this would go a long way to improving Mistissini's living conditions. Says a larger water treatment and sewage system is needed as well as a community water system.

Community development needs include a motel, community hall, recreation center as well as new businesses and industries. The most serious priority is employment. Mianscum says while we have to develop new employment we also have to develop new spending habits. We must spend more within our communities because this contributes to employment and a better economy.

Kenny Loon: "In order to improve the living conditions in the community of Mistissini, we must move towards a new direction. We must diligently towards achieving the objectives of Cree self-government." He sees the Cree Naskapi Act as giving the Crees a legal framework to do so.

Loon says Mistissini has the potential to be a strong and vibrant community but needs the leadership to realize it. He points out that currently unemployment, a huge housing backlog exists, economic development "is a snail's pace" and "community development is still in the planning stages."

Loon sees self-government as striving for higher goals and taking control of Cree destiny and jurisdiction. He feels there is an "over-use and dependency on outside expertise for technical assistance which is very costly." Loon says these high costs use up money that could be used to better the lives of Cree beneficiaries. He says it also leads to "eliminating employment opportunities for our members."

Loon says there must be more employment opportunities for educated Crees as well as responsibilities. Loon writes that Cree must continue to protect their way of life. "We must not allow the resource developers to continue to destroy our sacred ancestral lands."

Loon writes that a strong self-government would pressure the government to live up to its fiduciary obligations. The governments would be made to understand that "over-crowded housing is unhealthy and creates social problems," and that an increased housing program would create employment and business opportunities while community and economic development would be taking place.

William Mianscum: "Shortage of housing is a very serious problem in Mistissini. All our social problems derive from this problem alone. I will continue to pursue innovative solutions to our lack of housing situation.

"The introduction to the private home ownership program and the rent-to-own program are certainly programs that need to be pursued as this contributes to an acceleration of the housing program. Those who can afford their own housing through these programs release their units to those on the long list waiting for regular housing. To have everyone confident to pay rent and other living necessities, we would have to pursue, aggressively, the creation of employment opportunities in various sectors of the job market including resource development if the people support the resource to be developed. As well, we need to promote economic development and the introduction to new businesses. We need to develop an Economic Development Plan and a strategy to implement the plan; this is long overdue."

Peter Coon: Wishes to acknowledge the many organizations that are working towards improving living conditions with Mistissini. He includes the Native Women's Association, Cree Trappers' Association, Elder's Council, Youth Council and the local committees. Coon mentions the unsuitable housing as well as the backlog and points out that there are many other infrastructure deficiencies in the community. In health, Coon says, "Serious medical treatment issues at the clinic are being addressed by the Public Health department of Mistissini and the Cree Health Board."

Unemployment and welfare are problems for Mistissini, says Coon. He sees part of the solution as entering into partnerships with Quebec and resource companies. These partnerships would have economic and employment benefits as well as being a way to protect Cree rights says Coon. He points out the Troilus Agreement as an "important model." He sees a community economic development plan that is responsive to "the aspirations, needs and orientation of the community members" as being part of his mandate if elected.

He sees a need to integrate the educated Crees as well as looking for a way integrate traditional abilities and outlook in employment needs. He sees developing a commercial and professional assistance resource center. He would people inform by public announcements weekly.

Sam Etapp: "Please refer to the document, 'Building on Our Past.' The document is a work plan that I have proposed for the community of Mistissini. It is basically my personal assessment of the current state of affairs in our community and proposed certain issues during the next council's term and the strategies to pursue for significant and realistic progress during the next four years.

"More importantly, it proposes working on a sustained and focused effort and commitment on the part of everyone: community members, councillors and the chief."

ᐧᐃᓂᐦᑯᓄ ᓄᓇᒋᐅᐧᐃᐣᐊᓄ ᐃᓇᑎᒫᑐᓄ
ᐁᐯᐣ ᑭᐧ ᐃᓄᓐ ᑎᐦᓄᓇᑎᓂᓄ
The Grand Council of the Cree
and the Cree Regional Authority

ᒋᓄᐧᐃ ᓂᑐᒪᐅᐣ ᐃᓄᓐ ᐃ ᒋᓄᓀᓄᐧᐃᐣ ᓂᐢᑭᔑᓄᓂᐧᐃᑭᓂᐣ ᐊᓂᑦ
Would like to invite all interested beneficiaries to their

ᐃ ᓂᔅᑐᐧᐃᓀᓂᐧᐃᐣ ᐃᔑᐁᔑᐢᓵᐣ
Annual General Assmbly

ᐊᓂᑦ ᒋᔭᓄᐧᐃᐣ
ᐅᐱᐣᐅᐱᓄᐧ 4,5 ᑭᐧ 6, 1998
to be held in Chisasibi on
August 4,5 and 6th, 1998

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES
(EEYOU ASTCHEE)

CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Friends-in-law

by Deantha Edmunds

What do you do when you just can't STAND your "Friends-in-Law"? Otherwise known as friends of a friend, friends by association, step-friends. People who aren't directly your own friends, but they are a part of your life anyway.

Here's a sticky situation for you. I was going to Ottawa to visit one of my oldest friends from high school. My older sister was going to be there too. Cool. They have known each other for years and get along with each other. I invited my best friend to join us. That's cool too. She had heard about my high school friend and my sister, and looked forward to spending time with them. I was doing my best to stay calm, and tried to think of stuff we could do and talk about that would include everyone. THEN, my Ottawa friend found out her older sister was going to be there too. That ruined it all. I barely knew her and she picked on MY older sister when THEY were in high school. This wasn't going to work. I felt like all the pressure was on me to make sure everybody got along and had a good time. AARRGGHH!!

Here's another example: your best bud and you have plans to do something -- anything -- cool on Friday night. You're looking forward to it, you can't wait, it'll be great, whatever it is. When it comes to the two of you, anything is a good laugh.

Then, your best bud says someone else will be joining you. Oh great, you think, it's you know who. The despised friend-in-law. Now the plans aren't so cool any more. What to do?

It has nothing to do with jealousy. You're not peeved because two's company and three's a crowd. It's something else. You just can't force yourself to like this person. But since it's NOT up to you, you have to make do, take it as it comes.

Think about it. If you don't at least try (or pretend) to get along with your friend-in-law, it makes you look bad to your real friend. Your friend probably won't understand what the big deal is. Actually, your friend may feel insulted and take it personally. That's tough.

What you would most like to do is tell your friend exactly what you think of your friend-in-law and convince him or her to see things your way. But that's not fair, or realistic. You just have to put up with it. Try to see things from your friend's perspective and do your best to stay cool.

What's worse is when you can't get along with your mate's friends. How do you deal with that? This is when you have to grin and bear it, so to speak. You can voice your opinions to your other half, but do it very carefully. Remember, it's a touchy subject, and even if you don't like his or her friends, it doesn't give you the right to judge your mate or to say who he or she should hang out with.

Then there is the actual family-in-law. If you don't get along with your real in-laws, you are in big trouble. Don't even try to get involved! Go about your business and make the best of it. After all, you are a part of the family now and you can't just diss this one and that one. There will be serious consequences! You have to be tough. Vent your frustrations to someone outside the family circle, preferably a close friend. Just make sure your friends-in-law don't tag along!

*By the way, the trip to Ottawa didn't happen after all. What a relief!

The Twilight Zone

by Thelma & Louise

Welcome to TOTAL Insanity

Your Horror-scope

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Happy Birthday Cancerian brethrens, a word of warning to you on this joyous occasion of yours: You might consider picking up some holy water and a few stout wooden stakes. They'll come in handy soon, although we are still trying to figure how...(?)

Leo (July 23-Aug 23) PLEASE!?! Sometime soon you will discover a strange-looking thing in your underwear drawer. Best not to tell anyone. Unless you are trying to attract attention from an unwanted source, like say those flies around your head?!

Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 22) You will have an intellectual conversation with a potato, soon. You will be so caught up in it that it will fail to strike you as a bit odd that the potato knows more about life than you do. Later, this will later irritate you.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) There is no such thing as balance, moderation or fairness. For instance, what you are about to do is wrong. Of course, you will only find that out much later, when it is too late to change anything. For now, enjoy yourself!

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Confidential to female of the species: your boyfriend is kinda quiet, I bet that if you smack him around a bit, he'd talk then. For the males species: words of wisdom from us to you: DENY EVERYTHING. Explanations are not necessary.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 22) Excellent time to be expansive and benevolent. It will make people worry. Partly cloudy with a 40% chance of rain this week. High this week of 25 C with a low of 12 C. Can we forecast or what? Whatcha think 'bout dat?

Capricorn (Dec 23-Jan 19) This week you will ignore the warning label of the mouthwash bottle, and will attempt to yodel while gargling. That will be a mistake. A big one, but much needed. We do not want to expose the population to your radioactive morning breath.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Will you promise to not get a stunt person for your quantum leaps of faith for you? In your childish dreams of a Hollywood bio, smash hit of a movie, remember that it is all make believe. Hell, even Alice figured that one out in Wonderland. **1/2.

Pisces (Feb 19-March 20) This week is the week you will discover your larger cosmic destiny. A television infomercial and an 800 number are somehow involved. No, not the ones that come on after midnight. Then again, who knows. Love is blind after all!

Aries (March 21-April 19) Ask three people who understand you best to describe in detail what's most wonderful about you. Okay, Okay. Something simpler, ask one person who truly, deeply understands you to describe three of your best qualities. That should keep them busy all summer.

Taurus (April 20-May 19) You have a secret need to prove everyone wrong. It beats having you look like a butt-head in front of everyone, by making them all look like butt-heads for you. Words or warning: program 911 on your speed dial.

Gemini (May 20-June 21) Dazed and confused is pretty good, isn't it? So what's up? Already tired of partying your guts out during your time of reign in the heavenly skies? It is so unlike you Gemini's to give up without a fight. Isn't testing the limits of reality your turn-on?

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

As the Executive Director, meet the leadership challenge.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation cannot change the past. What it can do is to offer new opportunity for the individuals, families and communities who have been affected by the intergenerational legacy of physical and sexual abuse in the Residential School System.

As the Executive Director, you will embrace the responsibility of putting $350 million in funding to work in the best interests of Metis, Inuit and First Nations peoples. Ensure that the resources are wisely invested and effectively spent. Call on your own understanding of the issues to oversee the programs and processes that will have positive impact and promote healing. Work with the Aboriginal Board to build a strong, dedicated, co-operative team of professionals who will never lose sight of the Foundation's mission and spirit. Lead in the grant process to individuals, families and community organizations to enable their own healing initiatives.

Based in Ottawa, this independent, national Foundation seeks a true consensus leader with first-hand experience in the management of people, investments, organizational and program development. But most of all, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation seeks someone with the skills and experience to establish and lead a new and dynamic national organization that will serve a diverse population. Project 6031. Please write in confidence to 64 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1B4, by e-mail to resumes@caldwellpartners.com or by fax to (416) 922-8646.

THE CALDWELL PARTNERS

VANCOUVER • CALGARY • TORONTO • MONTRÉAL

FOR MORE OPPORTUNITIES SEE
www.caldwellpartners.com

Les Mines Inmet
Corporation miniere Inmet
Projet Troilus

LES MINES INMET

The Troilus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company engaged in exploration, development and processing of base and precious metals internationally.

The Troilus Project is situated 175km north of Chibougamau and is accessible by way of Route du Nord. The employees will work on a 4-3 or 7-7 shift schedule and will be provided with room and board and its first-class camp on site. The company is presently searching for candidates to fill the following positions at its Troilus Project, an open-pit gold mining operation.

OPENING NO. 034 - THE POSITION:

ELECTRO-TECHNICIAN (electro-dynamic)

The Electro-Technician plays an active role in the repairs, modifications, and maintenance of mining equipment.

Employment requirements:

Completion of college diploma in Electro-dynamic or equivalent;
Three to five (3-5) years experience is required;
Trade certification (Licence C) is an asset;
High tension power-line experience is an asset;
Knowledge of electric and electronic equipment;
Basic knowledge of English or French.

Main duties:

The incumbent performs some or all of the following duties:
Receives or prepares maintenance and repair procedures necessary for assembling, dismantling, control and testing of components, equipment and power lines;
Localizes all kinds of electrical failures;
Dismantles, inspects, repairs, replaces defective parts and wiring on electrical equipment;
Will be required to work in the shop and on the mine site;
Performs other related duties.

THE CONDITIONS:

Inmet Mining Corporation (Troilus Project) offers competitive wages and comprehensive benefits package. These positions are open to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and promotes Cree hiring. Inmet thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Interested candidates are asked to forward their resume, at the latest, JULY 16, 1998 to:

TROILUS PROJECT
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Quebec) G8P 3A9
Attention : Human Resources Manager

REFERENCE (THE POSITION TITLE):
JOB OPENING NO. 034: ELECTRO-TECHNICIAN

world wide webb

Who are you? Who sent you? And what is your directive?... Just kidding. I do want to know who you are. What are your computing habits and what you want to read about? I want to know whether you're on the Net or just learning what alt-f4 does. I want to know if you have to sneak on the Net and make sure your boss doesn't catch you on the Boney M. Web page. <www.muellner.simplenet.com/boneym/> I want to know if you have a computer at home and whether you use it for homework, or the latest games and whether it's hooked up to the Net. This won't hurt a bit...

1. Name (optional):_____
2. Age:_____
3. Occupation:_____
4. Sign:_____
5. Sex:
M ❑
F ❑
6. Community:
7. I use my computer at:
Home ❑
Work ❑
School ❑
8. I play games on my computer:
Always ❑
Sometimes ❑
Rarely ❑
9. I am connected to the Internet at:
Home ❑
Office ❑
School ❑
10. I have an email address:
Yes ❑
No ❑
11. I have to sneak on when I get on the Internet:
Yes ❑
No ❑
Not telling ❑
12. I pay long distance when I get on the Net:
Yes ❑
No ❑
13. Who are you? Who sent you? What is your directive?... (Just checking whether you're paying attention or not.)
14. I plan to purchase a computer:
In the near future ❑
Maybe at Christmas time if I've been nice ❑
Never ❑
15. True or false: Computers will one day rule the world. (Just checking again.)
16. Do you have a scanner?
Yes ❑
No ❑
17. How long have you been using a computer?_____
18. I want stories on:
Computer tips ❑
Internet tips ❑
Internet adventures ❑
Interesting websites ❑
Software ❑
Video games ❑
19. I want a question-and-answer section on computers:
Yes ❑
No ❑
20. I couldn't think of a question 20.

You can mail, or fax in your entries (514 278 9914) c/o World Wide Webb.

I have received some feedback on the UFO stories and I thank you. Keep them coming. If you mail it to The Nation make it c/o WWW/Sightings. I will let you know in my next columns our plans for these stories, till then.

Live long and prosper.

iyiyuu@mail.com

ᐊᑎᓂᐦᑎᑕᐧᐃᓐ

MONUMENTS AMOS Inc.

Experience serving
the Cree communities.
Our granite headstones can be personally
designed and written in Cree.

tel.: 1-819-732-2283
fax: 1-819-732-7077

Monuments Amos Enr.
4471 Route 11 Sud
Amos, Quebec
J9T 3A1

Owner: Marcel Labonté

ᓇᓱᑎᑦᑭᓇᐧ ᑲᓂᓱᒪᐧ

Les Maisons Funéraires
BLAIS
INC.

23 years serving the Cree communities

Personalized care and excellent service is our promise to you.

582 Ave. Centrale, Val d'Or, J9P 1P8

1-800-380-3321

Owners: Reina Blais, Renald Blais, Rémi Blais

CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

On Tuesday, May 26, 1998 at 11:12 a.m., God answered my prayer. He blessed me with a baby sister Mikayla Meredith Angel. I was very happy, I was jumping up and down. Welcome Mikayla. Thank you God for answering my prayer. Melissa Shannon Grace Gilpin.

Congratulations to the new parents Nathalie icebound and jack Ottereyes (Blacksmith() on the birth of their baby girl, born on April 26, 1998 at 2:34 p.m., weighing 8 lbs., 13 oz. May Megan bring you joy and happiness. Love always, Pauline, Neil and Brittany. xoxoxoxo.

Congratulations to my sister Crystal Mark on the birth of her daughter Raven Lydia Marjorie on June 9, 1998. wish I could have been there to share your special MOMENT. FROM YOUR SIS TINA IN Waswanipi.

Congratulations to Charlene and Brian Ottereyes on the birth of their baby girl Joy Stacy on May 20, 98. A little sister for Alyssa. We wish you all the best, joy and happiness in life. We would also like to wish a happy 3rd birthday to Alyssa on June 26, 98. Hope you enjoy your day. We love you a lot. Love, Ross, Angie and Jordan.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy belated birthday to my special uncle Terry G. from Wemindji on June 11, 98. I hope you enjoyed your special day. I'm sorry I couldn't celebrate with you. Anyway. From William sh Katapatuk. P.S. Take good care of yourself. You're getting a little bit older now.

Happy 18th birthday wishes to Byron Jonah on June 18th. May your birthday be as special as you are. We love you so much son and don't ever forget that you are a treasure in our hearts. All our love, mom and dad.

A belated birthday wish going out to a special boy Gilbert Swallow on May 2, 1998. Happy 14th birthday my son. I love you very much. From mom Philomene Swallow (mist)

Happy birthday to Edna Mayappo on June 4. Ena Weapenicappo on June 4. and Gloria Moar Weapenicappo on June 5. Happy birthday and many more years to come. may God bless you. With love, Edward, Sally, Victoria Gilpin and Miranda Weapenicappo.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my sister Nathalie on June 15. Hope your birthday will be as wonderful as you are. Enjoy your day sis. Love always, Pauline, Neil and Brittany.

Happy birthday to you my friend, sister Hattie Mianscum on July 22, 1998. Hope you have a great day, May this birthday wish bring you joy and happiness. Take care of yourself. P.S. We love you. From Mary, Rene and Children.

Happy birthday to my sister Crystal S. Coonishish on June 12, 98. Hope e you have a blast on your birthday. With love and prayers, xoxoxoxoxoxoxo Demerise and Derek Meskino.

Happy 7th birthday to Benjamin Hughboy on July 6. have a wonderful birthday and many more to come. be a good boy on your special day. We love you very much. With lots of love, hugs and kisses from mom, dad, Dale, Kerri, Eugene and Bertha.

Happy birthday to Georgina Allison Chiskamish on June 1st, 98. Wishing you all the best and many more to come. With love, have fun on your birthday. from Emma, Annie, Cheryl and Jessica. P.S. we love you. xxoxoxooxoxox

Happy birthday to Sally j. Gilpin on June 4, Happy birthday and may God

CG's CARPET CLEANING

ABEL GUNNER — *Satisfaction guaranteed!*

10, Bedabin Street
Mistissini (Québec) G0W 1C0

Tél.: 418•923•2044
Fax: 418•923•2107

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • VEHICLES • UPHOLSTERY

Nuuhchimi Wiinuu
Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Cultural Tours
Guided Tours for 1 day or 1 week in the bush

Dogsledding
Snowshoeing
Canoeing

CALL: Dave & Anna Bosum
74 Opataca St. Ouje-Bougoumou QC G0W 3C0
Office/fax: 418-745-3500 Res: 418-745-3629

514-866-5090
GAY LINE
1-888-505-1010

Information and help for lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

Calls from family and friends welcome.

Open 7 - 11pm, 365 days a year.

We're here to listen when you want to talk.

BOMBARDIER EXTENSION
BEST
ski-doo
Nortech
EQUIPMENT
942, 3e Rue, Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 1R6
Tel.: (418) 748-8188
Fax: (418) 748-3448

Caravan AVIATION
CHIBOUGAMAU

AIR TRANSPORTATION • CHARTER

• Business Trips
• Mining Exploration
• Trappers
• Outfitters

Contact Manager: Rene Vachon

AIRPORT: 418-748-4583
OFFICE: 418-748-6481
FAX: 418-748-2469

Mascarade

✡ Balloons ✡ Costumed Delivery ✡
✡ Room Decoration ✡
✡ Clowns ✡ Invitation Cards ✡

368, 3e Avenue, Val d'Or
825-3383

Suzie Caouette
OWNER

bless you on your birthday. We love you so so much. Thank you for everything you've done for us Hope you two have a good time in Montreal on your birthday at the casino. Love always, your husband Edward L. Gilpin, your daughter Victoria Gilpin and your little niece Miranda Weapenicappo.

This poem is for my daughter Rosemary Gunner whose birthday is on May 23. Happy birthday and hope you have a great day Gift from a daughter. You give me light when my life seems dark. you give me hope when I lose mine. I am so happy to have a daughter who gives me all these things. I am forever grateful for what you've given me and hope that I in turn can give them back to you. Love always, your mom Winnie. xoxoxoxoxo.

Birthday wishes going out to a special son of mine Jordan Jacob Blacksmith on June 6, 98 who is turning three. Enjoy your special day as you are and wish you many more to come. Gosh, you're growing too fast. Love always, mommy Angie and Ross.

Wishing my mother Janie Kanatewat a happy 58th birthday on June 15th , 1998. Mom, words cannot express how much I love you with all my heart. Even though I don't show it or say it often, but deep down in my heart there's a love for you and dad. And mom I want you to rest on your special day and let us do the cooking for you, but it won't be as good as yours. I love your delicious cooking mom, You'll say that's how a professional cooks. I love you mom! Once again, happy birthday and many more to come. With hugs and lots of kisses, Your daughter Lorraine K. (Chisasibi)xoxo.

Special birthday greetings going out to my great grandfather George Shecapio (Waskaganish) whose birthday is on Saturday July 5, 1998. I hope you have a great day Jaban. From your great grandson Collin Rendall John Blueboy. xoxoxox. All the way from Ottawa. xoxoxoxo

Happy birthday to my sister Celina J. Shecapio on June 18, 1998. So how old are you. 24 old enough to get married. why don't you marry one of your guy friends neh! Well anyway, have a blast. From Demerise and Derek Meskino

Birthday wishes go out to my grandson Christopher Iserhoff (JUNIOR) and to my granddaughter Amanda whose birthdays are both on June 28, 1998. Hop you two have a great day on your birthdays. Lots of love and kisses from grandma Susan. (Chisasibi) xoxoxoxoxoxoo.

Happy Birthday greetings and salutations going out to papa and Philip on this very hot day. We hope you guys are sitting somewhere cool and enjoying yourselves on your day(s). Lots of love, from A. & R. in MTL.

Happy 18th birthday wishes to Byron Jonah on June 18th. We're sending our love to you on your special day and to tell you that we love you brother. All our love, sisters, Jasmine, Amanda, bros Kyle and Sheldon.

Sending birthday wishes to Jared Lee Darius Hester, celebrating his first birthday on June the 18th. I love you. You're a cute chubby boysh. With all my love, auntie Josephine in Waskaganish.

Happy Birthday to Roxanna Blackned

HERITAGE
within your reach

NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA, OTTAWA

RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, MANITOBA

ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK, ONTARIO

Landscapes of spectacular beauty. Places where people have made history. Treasures of the past that tell us stories of the extraordinary and the everyday. These things are for all of us...to enjoy, to share and to cherish. They are our heritage and our legacy, our spirit and our strength. They are Canada's National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Museums.

Come to know them.

GROSSE ÎLE AND THE IRISH MEMORIAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, QUEBEC

Canadian Heritage
Parks Canada

Patrimoine canadien
Parcs Canada

Canada

Coming to Montreal?

Go **wild** at Parc Safari!

The Nation has some ***free tickets to Parc Safari***, and we've decided to share them with ***you***, our readers!

If you are coming to Montreal and would like to see monkeys, tigers and who knows what else, come by our office and pick up your **FREE TICKETS!**

You must come by **in person** to pick up the tickets. Only a limited number are available.

The Nation
5505 St. Laurent Blvd.
Montreal, Qc
H2T 1S6

Please call us at (514) 272- 3077 first, to make sure that tickets are available.

PARC SAFARI
HEMMINGFORD

Experience...

The All NEW Parc Safari

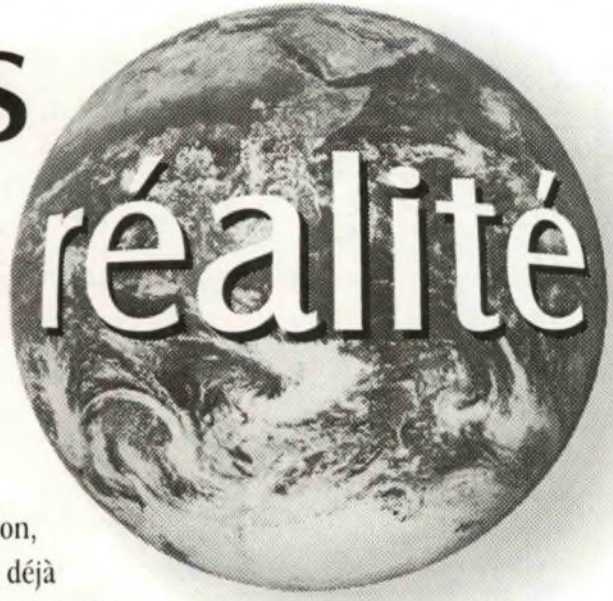
Rediscover the magic where animals and experiences abide in an all new decor, where a smile is created around every corner.

Open daily at 10 a.m.
- 800 animals 80 different species
- Amusement rides
- Shows
- Games
- Water-play areas

We want to go !!!

1-800-465-8724 / 1-450-247-2727
Interactive web site at: www.parcsafari.com
Parc Safari is situated 30 minutes south of Montréal
Autoroute 15, Exit 6 and follow the blue signs

Dès aujourd'hui, préparons les jeunes à la réalité de demain



La réforme de l'éducation, c'est du concret et c'est déjà amorcé ! L'objectif visé : permettre à tous les jeunes d'être mieux outillés pour aborder le prochain siècle et mieux préparés aux nouveaux emplois. Dans cet esprit, des programmes d'études renouvelés commenceront à être implantés dès la rentrée de 1999, au primaire, et dès la rentrée de 2001, au secondaire.

Québec

La réforme de l'éducation est en cours

- **Les langues, c'est l'avenir**
  On accordera une importance accrue à l'enseignement de la première langue – français ou anglais, selon le cas – et à celui de la langue seconde. De plus, les jeunes du secondaire pourront faire l'apprentissage d'une troisième langue, comme l'espagnol, de plus en plus utile avec le développement des relations économiques et culturelles entre le Québec et l'Amérique latine.
- **Connaître le monde où l'on vit**
  Dès 1999, le nouveau programme d'histoire, géographie et éducation à la citoyenneté est mis en place pour les jeunes de la troisième année du primaire. Par la suite, et c'est nouveau, les élèves étudieront l'histoire chaque année, jusqu'à la fin de leurs études secondaires.
- **Un enseignement qui sait s'adapter**
  Les autres programmes sont aussi mis à jour, notamment en arts, en mathématiques, en sciences et technologie, en enseignement moral et religieux, ainsi qu'en éducation physique et en éducation à la santé. Tous les élèves n'ont pas les mêmes besoins, les mêmes aspirations, les mêmes intérêts. C'est pourquoi, à partir de la troisième année du secondaire, les jeunes pourront choisir des matières à option ; ils auront aussi la possibilité, pour certaines matières (par exemple, les langues, les mathématiques, les sciences et la technologie), de choisir un programme d'un degré de difficulté qui leur convient.

Ce ne sont là que quelques-unes des mesures que comporte la réforme de l'éducation. Pour plus d'information, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec le ministère de l'Éducation au **(418) 643-7095** ou à visiter son site Web à l'adresse **http://www.meq.gouv.qc.ca**

Gouvernement du Québec
Ministère de l'Éducation

from Waskaganish on June 5. If I was in Wask., I would bake you a cake and watch you blow your candles. I'll buy you a gift when I go to town and hopefully it'll get there by the time on your next birthday. (just kidding!) Anyway, Best Wishes on your b-day and take care of yourself. From your namesake in Nemaska, xoxoxoxo M.C.

We would like to wish our daughter Natasha Dora Loon a Happy Birthday. Her Birthday will be on the 30th of June. She will be turning 11 years old. Natasha you mean the world to us. I know that you can't have want you want the most but keep praying. I know that someday God will answer your prayer. Having you as our daughter has meant so much to us. We wish you the best in the years to come ,we love you dearly. with much love from your parents Donald & Natalie Matoush oxox

Happy 1st birthday to a special little grandson, Lazarusie Iserhoff whose birthday will be on July 2, 1998. Looking forward to your first birthday and hope you will have fun. Love you and lots of hugs and kisses from Grandma Susan (Chisasibi) xxoxoxoxo

Belated birthday wish going out to Francine Weistche. Her birthday is sometime in May Forgot the exact date, but I didn't forget you. Best wishes to you and your daughter for this next year. Go for your dreams and make them happen. From Me, Emily and Alexandre in Mistissini.

Happy birthday to my sister Minnie on June 12, my brother John on June 22 and my mom Hattie on June 29. I hope you're not 48 again mom. Love always, Nellie.

Happy birthday to a friend in OJ, Naomi on June 10. Sorry I haven't written to you in a while. From Nellie.

Happy 4th birthday to my beautiful daughter June Cookish Matowahom On June 25th, 1998. Have fun. I love you very much,. Hugs and kisses. Love always, mommy. xoxoxoxo.

Wachiya!

PF

LES CONSTRUCTIONS PEPIN & FORTIN INC.

• General Contractor •
• Management of Turn Key Projects • Buildings •
• Road & Waterworks • Civil Engineering •
• Excavation and Landfilling •
• Portable Concrete Mixer •

Robert Lamothe, T.P.
Vice-président

ENTREPRENEUR-GENERAL
COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIEL - MINIER
BATIMENT PREFABRIQUE

Internet site:
http://www.mp.qc.ca/pf/

1925, 3e avenue
Val d'Or, QC J9P 4N7
Tel.: 819.824.6300
Fax: 819.824.6444

Congratulations!

Kimberly Ann Quinn

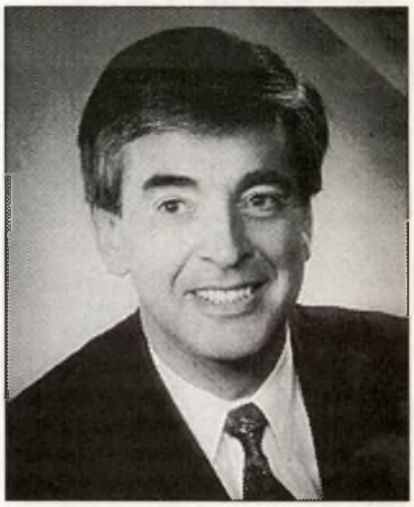
"To Our Daughter"

We loved watching you grow up.
These memories are the ones we will always cherish in our hearts.
We love the moments we have together,
However short or long they may be.
Being with you has always been quality time spent together,
But because of life's demands, there has never been enough time.

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
McGill University

We encouraged you to leave our home, to face more challenges,
We loved watching you make strides on your own.
We admire your energy and enthusiasm towards life.
You've earned this success and we are very proud of you.
We love you very much,
Dad & Mom

Le président des Hebdos UniMédia à la présidence des Hebdos Sélect du Québec



Montréal - Le président-directeur général des Hebdos UniMédia, M. Gilles A. Cérat, a été élu à la présidence du conseil d'administration des Hebdos Sélect du Québec inc. lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle des actionnaires tenue à Saint-Hyacinthe.

M. Renel Bouchard, rédacteur en chef et directeur général des Éditions Le Canada Français occupera la vice-présidence, alors que M. François Charbonneau, directeur du marketing et développement des affaires des Hebdos Transcontinental agira en tant que trésorier et M. Luc Bélanger, éditeur du journal Le Choix des gens d'ici agira comme secrétaire.

En plus d'occuper la présidence du conseil d'administration des Hebdos Sélect inc., M. Cérat est vice-président de l'Association des Hebdos du Québec et membre du conseil d'administration de l'Institut des Communications Graphiques du Québec.

ANNOUNCING

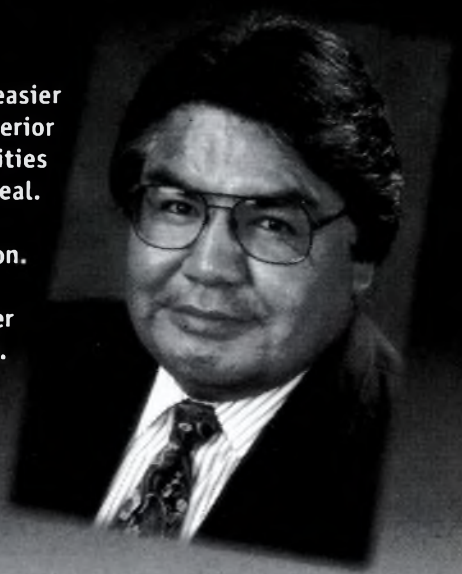
NEW FLIGHTS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

Starting September 1, 1997

Every weekday. DIRECT!!

CHISASIBI - CHIBOUGAMAU - MONTREAL
MONTREAL - CHIBOUGAMAU - CHISASIBI

Departure	Arrive	Arrive	Arrive
Montreal 8:50 am	Chibougamau 10:00 am	La Grande 11:35 am	Chisasibi 12:20 pm
Chisasibi 1:40 pm	La Grande 2:00 pm	Chibougagmau 3:35 pm	Montreal 5:15 pm



We're making it easier
To go between interior
and coastal communities
and to go to Montreal.

Compare us with the competition.

We're cheaper, faster
and more convenient.

Air Creebec.
We're listening to you.

1-800-567-6567

3rd Annual Cree Nation Fitness Challenge (CNFC)

"Where the Elite Compete"

August 7 & 8, 1998 • Nemaska • Registration Deadline: July 31

This year there are two categories: Competitive and Recreational
Inscription Fees:

Competitive: $500
Recreational: $400

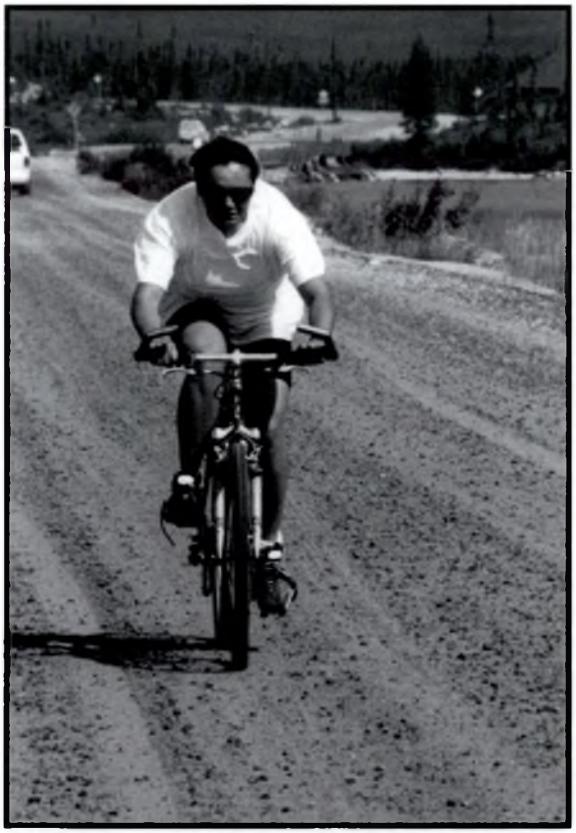
The inscription fees for the champions of the last two Fitness Challenges will be paid by the CNFC organization for this year's competition.
(Only on competitive division)
Ages: 16 & up
*16 and 17 yr. olds must have signed parental consent to compete.

COMPETITIVE:	MEN	WOMEN
Swimming	1Km	1Km
Cycling	20Km	15Km
Portage	1Km	0.5Km
Canoeing	2Km	1Km
Running	10Km	7.5Km
TOTAL	**34KM**	**25KM**

RECREATION:	MEN	WOMEN
Swimming	0.5Km	0.5Km
Cycling	10Km	10Km
Portage	1Km	0.5Km
Canoeing	1Km	1Km
Running	7.5Km	7.5Km
TOTAL	**20KM**	**19.5KM**

The champions of last years' Fitness Challenge are:

Women's division - **Stephanie Mianscum**, Mistissini 1h 55min 56 sec.
Men's division - **Louis Mianscum**, Mistissini 2h 14min 26 sec.



**Watch for our posters - they will be in every community and list the prizes and official sponsors of the event.*
$100 cash prize will be awarded to the first place winner in each event. Trophies & plaques will also be awarded.
Prize money may vary depending on the number of participants.

Are you up to the Challenge?

For more information contact John Henry Wapachee at (819) 673-2512, or call your local Sports & Rec. Department.
The organizers of the CNFC extend invitations to other Aboriginal groups in Quebec who reside in the Abitibi-Temiscaminque and Saguenay-Lac Saint Jean regions. Invitations are also open to the native groups living in the West coast of James & Hudson Bay area.